

In the Specification:

The Abstract is amended as follows:

~~_____ Differentiated handling of SIP messages for VoIP call control~~

Abstract

~~The invention provides a method~~ Systems and methods are disclosed for differentiated handling of VoIP call control messages according to their importance and functionality, thus providing to VoIP infrastructures a level of robust call control similar to that in PSTN networks. ~~The invention works by classifying SIP messages~~ are classified by their type or content, and resources of ~~by allocating a VoIP call control server's resources to them~~ are allocated to the SIP messages according to a policy. The scheme also provides overload protection and prioritized handling of certain kinds of requests in VoIP call control servers.